



Tony Estrella, Artistic Director • Amy Gravell, Managing Director

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THE GAMM STARTS NEW YEAR WITH BRIAN FRIEL'S HAUNTING *FAITH HEALER*

WARWICK, RI (December 13, 2022) – **The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** (The Gamm) opens the new year with a **limited-run** of ***Faith Healer*** by celebrated Irish playwright **Brian Friel**. In a series of monologues both profound and poetic, this masterwork tells the tale of an itinerant faith healer performing in the forgotten corners of the British Isles. Unfolding in spellbinding revelations, ***Faith Healer*** explores truth and myth making, and the role of the artist in society.

Donnla Hughes, recently seen on stage at The Gamm as Yevgenia in *Describe the Night*, directs Gamm Artistic Director **Tony Estrella** as “the fantastic Frank Hardy;” **Jeanine Kane** (Nora in *A Doll’s House, Part 2*) as his wife, Grace; and **Brandon Whitehead** (Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*) as his manager, Teddy.

Born and raised in Ireland, Hughes said she is thrilled to direct a play by the late Friel, one of the leading Irish dramatists of his generation.

“Friel’s plays provided some of my earliest encounters with theatre and are tightly woven into my imagination. He draws his characters with such striking precision and humanity that you feel as though you’ve always known them,” Hughes said. “In *Faith Healer*, his exploration of what it means to be an artist is profound. Having grappled with this concept myself for many years, it’s invigorating to return to this play! ***Faith Healer* is a deeply personal experience in that each person will receive it differently. It’s a privilege to help bring this masterful work to an audience.**”

Faith Healer runs from **January 12-29 only** at **The Gamm Theatre, 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, R.I.** Tickets: **\$55-\$65**; preview performances (Jan. 12-15) just **\$38**. Information about Friday night **pay-what-you-wish rush tickets**, as well as discounts for seniors, students, groups and more at gammtheatre.org/discounts. Tickets: **401-723-4266** or gammtheatre.org/faith

Note: A nose and mouth covering is required for patrons attending the **masked matinee** on **Saturday, January 21 at 2pm only**.

ABOUT *FAITH HEALER*

A modern masterpiece by the acclaimed Irish author of *Translations* and *Dancing at Lughnasa*, Friel’s play weaves together the stories of an erratic, itinerant faith healer with those of his embittered but loving wife and his weary stage manager. In lyrical monologues, the characters deliver conflicting versions of “the fantastic Francis Hardy’s” performances, while slowly revealing a terrible event at the story’s center. This fascinating exploration of truth and superstition, and the role of the artist in society is not be missed.

“One of those rare works of art audiences are destined to recall as a deeply personal experience. A powerful piece of writing.” *The New York Times*

Season supporter: **Rhode Island State Council on the Arts**

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Faith Healer by **Brian Friel**
Directed by **Donnla Hughes**

CAST

Frank.....**Tony Estrella***

Grace.....**Jeanine Kane***
Teddy.....**Brandon Whitehead***

CREW

Set Design **Patrick Lynch**△
Costume Design **Katie Hand**
Lighting Design **Dawn Chiang**
Sound Design **Alex Eizenberg**
Production Management **Jessica Hill Kidd**
Stage Manager **James Kane***

△ Member of United Scenic Artist, Local USA 829 of the IATSE, the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

ABOUT THE GAMM THEATRE

Founded in 1984, the non-profit Gamm Theatre is proud to tell stories that entertain, provoke, and engage seriously with the most important issues of our time. The Gamm further serves the public with educational programming that enriches the cultural and civic life of our community. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Estrella and Managing Director Amy Gravell, The Gamm is a regionally recognized, award-winning theater and a proud member of New England Area Theatre (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors' Equity Association.

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